

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 /134 W

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P 020950Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2569

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: POL AO

SUBJECT: MAY DAY ACTIVITIES

1. EXPECTED DEMONSTRATION BY MPLA AND OTHER EMERGING LOCAL GROUPS (MOSTLY RECONSTITUTED LABOR UNIONS) FAILED TO MATERIALIZE. LOCAL SECURITY MEASURES LIMITED TO SLIGHTLY INCREASED NUMBER OF PSP STREET PATROLSGN WITH BACKUP MPS (MOSTLY KEPT OUT OF SIGHT). ONLY SIGNIFICANT HAPPENING WAS MEANDERING NIGHT-TIME MOTORCADE THROUGH CITY LED BY HORDES OF PREDOMINANTLY WHITE YOUTHS ON MOTORBIKES. PERHAPS 100 CARS ALSO INVOLVED. MOTORCADE APPARENTLY IN SUPPORT OF JUNTA AND WITHOUT ANY PARTICULAR POLITICAL TIE.

2. ACCORDING TO EYEWITNESS KNOWN TO US AS RELIABLE, TWO GIRLS (ONE WHITE, OTHER BLACK) CARRYING BANNER CALLING FOR INDEPENDENT ANGOLA AND AN END TO "FASCIST COLONIALIST OPPRESSORS" WERE MOMENTARILY DETAINED BY SEVERAL PSP AND ESCORTED FROM SITE OF EXPECTED MPLA DEMONSTRATION. THIS SIGN WAS CONFISCATED BUT GIRLS WERE RELEASED 4 BLOCKS AWAY. THE CROWD WHICH SAW GIRLS TAKEN AWAY DID NOT SEE RELEASE AND SEVERAL HUNDRED PEOPLE (HALF BLACK)

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MASSED IN FRONT OF PALACE TRYING TO GET UP A DEMONSTRATION TO

DEMAND THEIR FREEDOM. DESPITE EFFORTS BY OBVIOUS AGITATOR
(WHITE), CROWD COULD NOT BE INCITED AND EVENTUALLY BROKE UP.

3. COMMENT: RELATIVE CALM IN ANGOLA PERHAPS ATTRIBUTABLE TO
WIDESPREAD APPREHENSION ON PART OF NON-BLACKS AS TO EXACTLY
WHAT SPINOLA INTENDS DO WITH OVERSEAS (SEPTTEL). UNTIL THEY
CONVINCED THERE WILL BE NO SELL-OUT, IT UNLIKELY THEY WILL BECOME
OVERLY ENTHUSED WITH JUNTA. BLACKS ARE LEADERLESS. CALL FOR MPLA
DEMONSTRATION DONE BY LEAFLETS DISTRIBUTED IN WORKER (MOSTLY
BLACK) NEIGHBORHOODS BUT ALSO BY MAIL AND RADIO BRAZZAVILLE.
NONE OF THEIR LOCAL CADRE WILLING MAKE HIMSELF KNOWN AT THIS
TIME.
BRIGGS

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Message Attributes

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